



## “A Social Statement on Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope and Justice”

[adopted by more than 2/3 majority vote by the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
on August 23, 1993]

“... we know care for the earth  
to be a profoundly spiritual  
matter... Made in the image of  
God, we are called to care for  
the earth as God cares for the  
earth.”

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America. Reprinted May, 1999.

Our church currently pays for the  
following items to be recycled...

Newspaper

Office paper (even colored)

#1 and #2 plastics

Metal cans

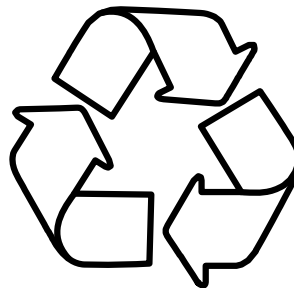
Aluminum foil

Corrugated cardboard

Boxboard (no wax-coated paper such as  
orange juice cartons)

Clear glass

The dumpster for the recyclables is on  
our parking lot next to our trash dumpster.  
Please make sure that the recyclables are  
placed into this dumpster and not the  
trash dumpster.



# GOING GREEN RIGHT FROM THE START



Immanuel Lutheran Church Guidelines & Suggestions

## PRECYCLE YOUR EVENT

[function, meeting, potluck, group get-  
together or assembly!]



*Pre-cycle: (n.) reducing waste by limiting consumption  
(even if it is recyclable). Usage: pre-cycling is being  
thoughtful at the point of purchase in addition to at the  
point of throwing out. [It] saves precious natural  
resources, helps with greenhouse gas reduction and can  
save you money. (Minneapolis Star Tribune, 8/4/09)*



Immanuel guidelines for hosting an ecologically friendly event that nourishes God's people while also caring for God's earth:

# Rethink

# Reduce,

# Reuse,

and then

recycle.

\*\*

1

**RETHINK** what to use instead of Styrofoam which was banned by the Church Council originally in 1982 and reaffirmed in 2009. The church is a "Styrofoam-free zone!"

2

**RETHINK** the use of disposable dishes, flatware and other utensils. Ask people to bring their own. *(But we should remain welcoming and friendly: please leave some church-owned place settings out and available for those people who have either forgotten theirs or for visitors.)*

3

**RETHINK** the use of balloons, streamers, plastic tablecloths or other single use plastic decorations. *(You might try using instead tablecloths or sheets from home, natural objects such as stones or greenery for decorations.)*

4

**RETHINK** at the point of purchase. One carton of half-n-half rather than individual packets creates much less waste. *(Packaging represents 65% of household trash.)*

5

**RETHINK** when having to purchase disposables: only #1 and #2 plastics are recycled locally. *(The rest will enter the waste stream; landfills, oceans, etc.)*

6\*\*

**RETHINK** before placing something in the waste container. Should it be placed into a recycling bin\*\* rather than a trash can? *(In other words, does it help to use recyclable products if we just throw them into the landfill?)*

7

**RETHINK:** use a water container and refill it. Don't serve bottled water.



\*\* see back of brochure